Niagara River Riparian Restoration Program
Phase 2

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Greenway Ecological Standing Committee
December 2, 2013
Niagara River Riparian Restoration Program – Phase 2

Grant Project Areas:

1. Living Shoreline Restoration Projects
2. Third-party Evaluation of Phase 1 Shoreline projects
3. Native Niagara! Ready, Set, Grow! (seed program)
4. Invasive Water Chestnut Pull Events
5. Website & Educational Tools for Waterfront Landowners
Living Shorelines

YEAR 1 - Program Setup:

• Revised the Program Structure & Process
• Established Site Selection, Design & Restoration Timeline
• Project Manager in Place
• Evaluated Bio-engineering Methodologies
• Developed Auto CAD & Construction Contractor Standards

Southern Environmental Law Center’s Living Shorelines Program
Living Shorelines

Currently:

• Establishing Technical Advisory Committee
• Collecting “Living Shorelines” Technical Design Standards
• Beginning potential Site Inventory
  – GIS mapping
  – Existing research
  – Partner priorities
• Further Refining Site Selection Process (criteria)
Living Shorelines (2014)

• Finalize Site Identification (8-10 sites for further Investigation)
• TAC Site tours, Assessment & Ranking
• Landowner Outreach & Buy-in
• Concept Development (1-2 sites per year)
• Secure Technical Services
• Schematic Development & Cost Estimates
• Present Designs & Costs to GESC
• Select Sites for Construction
• Further Refine Designs & Costs
• Develop Construction Bid Package
Third-Party Evaluation (2014)

- Contract with area University for Evaluation Piece
- Establish Graduate Fellowship for Evaluation Development & Implementation
- Evaluate Phase 1 Sites & Document Findings
- Incorporate Recommendations into Phase 2 work
- Provide Landowners Technical Assistance

Vermont’s Lake Encroachment Permit Program - Peacham Pond
Native Niagara! Ready, Set, Grow!

Seed Program Setup:
• Target Site List
• Plant Species List
• Site Assessment Forms
• Assessment Guidelines & Checklist
• Site Assessment Database
• Flowering/Seeding Database
• Field Reference Sheets

David Lee, Saratoga Springs Nursery, instructing River Academy Students on Seed Collection
Native Niagara! Ready, Set, Grow!

Accomplishments to date:
• 21 Assessments Conducted
• 17 Different Natural Areas Assessed
• 3 Seed Collection Events
• Over 20 cubic feet of seeds collected
• 39 Volunteers engaged
• 200+ Volunteer collection hours logged

Field Assessment & GPS Data of Great Baehre Swamp
Native Niagara! Ready, Set, Grow!

2014

• Further Assess Local Sites for Native Species
• Develop GIS mapping with species data sets
• Hold 5-8 seed collection events
• Establish local growing partnerships
• Maintain native growing database

Basswood
Tilia caroliniana

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Water Chestnut Pull Events

• Established Invasive Water Chestnut Eradication Strategy with USFWS
• Purchased Equipment for Removals
• Conducted Baseline Inspections of Tonawanda Creek
• Conducted 3 Water Chestnut removal events
Water Chestnut Pull Events

August 2013 - Youthworks teen service organization pull event
Website & Educational Tools

Currently Revising Native & Naturalized Plant Guide
Website & Educational Tools

2014

- Waterfront Landowner Stewardship Guide
- Native & Naturalized Plant Guide printing in January
- Online Invasive Species Management Tool Kits
- Update Website with Guides, Tool Kits & BMPs
- Announce & distribute Educational Tools to area partners and organizations

www.bnriverkeeper.org